

CLEAN COPY OF CLAIM 1

1. A diffractive device having a surface relief structure which, when illuminated by a light source, generates one or more diffraction images which are observable from particular ranges of viewing angles around the device, including:

a region of diffractive structural elements, the region having a length and a width;

background diffractive structural elements distributed over the length of the region, a plurality of the background elements having a longitudinal extent which extends throughout the width of the region; and

interstitial diffractive structural elements;

wherein the interstitial elements are interspersed between the background elements within the region such that the diffractive action of the background elements is modulated by the interstitial elements, with differing interstitial element configuration in differing parts of the surface relief structure producing differing diffraction effects in corresponding parts of the diffraction images.